

**Turtle Rock Retention Pond Committee Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2020, 10:00 am, Zoom and Community Center**

Members present:

Melody Barackman, Chair (mbarackman@gmail.com)

Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary (mmvanschouwen@gmail.com)

David Bryan, Turtle Rock Board of Governors Liaison (governor1@myturtlerock.com)

Douglas Smith (smithdrjm@verizon.net)

Ed Olson, Manager (edward@sunstatemngement.com)

Absent: Curt Gilroy (curtgilroy@gmail.com)

The committee has established a monthly meeting time: Second Wednesday of each month at 10 am.

However, the August meeting will begin at 9 am (rather than 10) on August 12. Zoom will be available, and the committee will update on whether any members wish to meet at the Community Center.

Susan Mercer, an applicant for committee membership, presented her qualifications and areas of interest to the committee. She is interested in preserving and enhancing Turtle Rock ponds, and is dedicated to environmental stewardship. She states that she wants to be an active contributor to the committee's work, and has read its reports and plans. The committee members described the committee's mission and need to work within budgets and other constraints. Prior to the end of the meeting, Susan signed off Zoom at the committee's request, and committee members in attendance voted unanimously in favor of Susan joining the committee. Melody will follow up with Susan.

David and Ed are working with Bloomings to get pricing for 2020 clipping of buffers behind pondside homes. Bloomings had offered to clip buffers along the preserves at no extra cost during 2020. David then reviewed the committee report and concluded that clipping the preserves was not specified in the full report, and that it is, regardless, a lower priority than other clipping. The team agreed that clipping priority is as follows:

- Behind private pondside homes
- Common grounds' pondside buffers that are adjacent to Turtle Rock Boulevard and other high-visibility areas
- Preserve buffers as desired or appropriate

David and Ed expect to receive the price from Bloomings prior to the next Board meeting, optimistically by mid-July.

David estimates that Bloomings may need to clip the buffer grass six to eight times this year. (Note that a previous Bloomings estimate of \$1500/clipping included only the approximately 22,000 linear feet of shoreline that need aquatic plants, not the shoreline that already has those plants. In theory, Bloomings' actual price could be higher than \$1500 per clipping visit.)

Note that, for 2020 Bloomings will clip using string trimmer(s). For 2021, Bloomings will want to add a clipping bar, which will be efficient and which is designed to facilitate keeping clippings out of the ponds.

For the August Board meeting, David anticipates also having an estimate for shoreline restoration from Howell Concrete and Land Service.

David, Doug, Melody and other committee members as interested will schedule a walking tour around relevant ponds to determine priority for this restoration work. Walk will likely take place the week of July 27.

It's likely that only the most serious erosion will be addressed in the immediate future, and that the process will continue over a few years. Cost may be approximately \$60-80 per linear foot. Howell is the best option for both price and performance, in David's experience. However, the committee plans to get additional estimates as well.

Melody mentioned that Joe Polidoro (member of the Turtle Rock Natural Resources committee) is developing an educational presentation on pond preservation for Turtle Rock homeowners. The committee will review this presentation. We would like to conduct a Zoom for residents, perhaps during August. We'd like to continue the process, either at the Community Center or on Zoom as needed, in fall. Schedule TBD.

We discussed the flyer and letter for distribution to approximately 250 relevant pondside homes. Melody has a map of the homes that will receive flyers.

-Melody will remove the fourth sentence from the flyer. This references creating an LMZ adjacent to the preserves. If we determine that Bloomings will provide 2020 clipping services, she will make appropriate revisions to communicate this as well.

-Michelle will update the cover letter once we know whether the HOA will provide 2020 clipping service to homeowners. In addition, the letter will be signed by Russ Gill and will be a strong directive.

-Ed will print 250 each of the flyer and letter. Cost is expected to be minimal.

-Committee members will distribute the flyers, either to homeowners' doors (with a mask on) or to the newspaper boxes under residents' mailboxes. Melody will coordinate which members handle which streets.

Committee members noted that many homeowners have already started growing and maintaining their pondside grass buffers. We appreciate the homeowners' proactive efforts.

Committee voted on Susan Mercer's membership, as above. David will advise the Board so that she can be listed and included on insurance.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Action items summary:

- Advise Susan that she has been accepted to the committee: Melody, done as of this writing
- Advise Board that Susan is now a member: David
- Get Bloomings pricing for 2020 clipping, present to Board: David/Ed
- Revise ponds flyer: Melody

- Revise flyer cover letter: Michelle*
- Print flyer and cover letter: Ed*
- Deliver to approximately 250 homes: Committee, coordinated by Melody*
- Schedule an erosion review walk for week of July 27: David*
- Review Joe Polidoro's presentation when available. If appropriate, schedule a Zoom for homeowners: Team*
- Schedule August 12, 9 am pond committee meeting on Zoom: Ed*

Remaining from last meeting:

- Get estimates from Aquagenix for 1) planting Pond 9, 2) planting all ponds (2021), and 3) mechanical vs. chemical focus for invasives removal: David/Ed*
- Finalize budget estimate for pondside erosion restoration by square foot; estimate from Howell Concrete and Land Service: David/Ed*
- Check additional tilapia removal options: Ed*
- Add item to the Implementation plan describing monitoring aquatic plants: Melody*

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary
July 2, 2020